

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A computer-based blind-bidding system for supporting negotiations with any number of issues and any number of parties is disclosed. After negotiation issues are created, each negotiating party defines preferred outcomes and associated relative importances for each issue. Confidential information is managed by a neutral site where parties have access only to their only private information and that which other parties share with them. Parties can then create proposals and other potential agreements within those ranges, which may be visible to other parties or not, at their own option. Upon request, the system generates visible suggestions, which are potential agreements whose values are derived from party preference information. If some suggestions already exist, new suggestions fall between existing suggestions. Parties can see the suggestions generated by the system, but are “blind” to a confidential acceptance that any other party may indicate with respect to any package. Two or more parties reach an agreement when they accept the same potential agreement.